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GP37499/9/02
520.30414V22



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Applicants: KATO, et al.
Serial No.: 09/766,596
Filed: January 23, 2001
For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND OPERATING METHOD THEREFOR
Group: 3749

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER
37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

July 15, 2002

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a copy of an English translation of an Office Action from the Japanese Patent Office, in connection with a Japanese patent application corresponding to the above-identified application. Also enclosed is a copy of the document cited in this Office Action (that is, Japanese Patent Document No. 1-170013), as well as an English translation of this Japanese Patent Document. Further enclosed is a Form, substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, listing the enclosed Japanese Patent document.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Clearly, the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97(b) are satisfied.

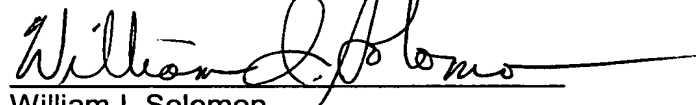
While the enclosed Japanese Patent Document is not in the English language, it is respectfully submitted that the requirements of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) are satisfied by the enclosed English translation of this Japanese Patent Document.

In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with the present submission of the enclosed documents. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 520.30414V22), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

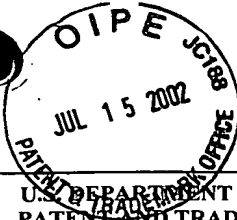
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William I. Solomon", written over a horizontal line.

William I. Solomon
Registration No. 28,565

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Form PTO-1449

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ATTY. DKT. NO.

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SERIAL NO.

09/766,596

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

KATO, et al.

FILING DATE

January 23, 2001

GROUP

3749

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	AA					
	AB					
	AC					
	AD					
	AE					
	AF					
	AG					
	AH					
	AI					
	AJ					
	AK					
	AL					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation /Abstract	
						Yes	No
	AM	1-170013	6-5-89	Japan		X	
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AU	Japanese Office Action dated April 16, 2002
	AV	
	AW	
	AX	
	AY	
	AZ	

Examiner

Date Considered

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